est. 1897

Norfolk House School

NEWSLETTER
AUTUMN TERM 2026-2027



Message from the Head



Norfolk House has enjoyed a fantastic start to the academic year, with pupils embracing each day with enthusiasm and curiosity as we approach October half-term.

Later this year, we look forward to celebrating our 130th anniversary by creating an online museum featuring alumni stories, photographs and testimonials, preserving the memories that have shaped our school.

We are incredibly proud of our pupils' hard work, commitment and resilience throughout the 11+ examinations and we look forward to supporting both our pupils and external candidates preparing for the 7+ exams in December.

Meanwhile, our all-inclusive wraparound care and holiday clubs, running throughout every school holiday, continue to support busy families, providing flexibility and enriching experiences beyond the classroom.

It is a privilege to lead Norfolk House as we celebrate our heritage, nurture our pupils' potential and look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Mr Tej Lander FCCT
Headteacher

130 Years of Norfolk House: A Proud History, An Exciting Future



Founded in 1897, Norfolk House School has a remarkable story to tell. As we approach our 130th anniversary in 2027, we celebrate a rich history of learning and achievement in the heart of Muswell Hill.

Originally a boys' school, many pupils left at age 14 to join the Royal Navy as Cadet Officers. This maritime heritage remains part of our identity today, reflected in our House names, Nursery classroom names and anchor in the branding.

In 1992, Norfolk House became fully co-educational, welcoming girls and boys together.

In 2003, entrepreneur Mark Malley acquired the school, making Norfolk House the first school in the Bellevue Education group.

Today, Norfolk House combines proud heritage with an ambitious outlook. Our 2026 cohort achieved our strongest 11+ results to date, receiving 68 offers from 25 different schools and 16 scholarships.

As we look ahead, we celebrate our past and the generations of pupils shaping our future.

A New Chapter at Norfolk House: Honouring Our Heritage, Looking to the Future

As we look ahead to our **130th anniversary** in 2027, we're delighted to share a fresh new look for Norfolk House - one that celebrates our rich history while looking confidently towards the future.
Our refreshed branding is much more than a new design. Every detail has been thoughtfully chosen to reflect the stories, traditions and surroundings that make Norfolk House so special.

Old

Norfolk House School

New

est. 1897

Norfolk House School

A design rooted in history

At the heart of our new identity is a traditional shield, a familiar symbol of heritage in independent schools. Above it, historic-inspired lettering pays tribute to our Victorian founding, connecting today's school community with the generations who have shaped Norfolk House since 1897.
Look a little closer, and you'll discover even more of our story woven into the design. The chequered pattern draws inspiration from the beautiful Victorian floor tiles at our Upper School, while the stripes and checks also represent the letters 'N' and 'H' in naval semaphore - a subtle nod to our maritime connections.
We've also brought back a much-loved feature from an earlier school logo: the historic anchor. Its inclusion creates a meaningful link between our past and present, keeping an important part of our heritage alive.

Inspired by our surroundings

Our identity is closely connected to the place we call home. The shield's nature-inspired pattern echoes a beautiful Victorian and Edwardian design found in the Lower School atrium, while its leafy details celebrate the green spaces around us, including Highgate Wood and Coldfall Woods.
These local surroundings are an important part of life at Norfolk House, and we wanted our new branding to reflect that sense of place and belonging.
Alongside these traditional elements, we've introduced Figtree as our new house typeface. Its clean, contemporary style brings a fresh and versatile finish to our visual identity, balancing the richness of our history with a modern outlook.

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Celebrating our past, welcoming our future

As we approach this exciting milestone, our refreshed branding offers an opportunity to celebrate everything that has brought Norfolk House to this point - our heritage, our surroundings and, above all, the families and pupils who are part of our story.
For prospective families, it offers a glimpse of the thought and care behind our school identity: a celebration of where we have come from, expressed in a way that looks towards what comes next.
We're proud to begin this new chapter and look forward to sharing our 130th anniversary celebrations with our wonderful school community in 2027.

7+ Redefined: Your Questions Answered



How does the 7+ exam at Norfolk House differ from other independent schools?

Norfolk House holds a single-stage assessment in one day, combining maths, reading comprehension, writing and a collaborative group task. Unlike an assessment focused only on academic ability, it also evaluates teamwork, communication, creativity and leadership.

How does Norfolk House help children feel comfortable during the 7+ assessment?

The assessment takes place over one day, with breaks between the tests and lunch before the collaborative task. The group activity also gives children the opportunity to demonstrate their teamwork, communication and creativity in a practical setting.

Can my child apply for Year 3 without doing the 7+ exam?

Absolutely. We offer two paths of entry into Year 3 and children are not obliged to register for the 7+ exam. Children not taking part in the 7+ exam will be invited for a taster morning in Year 2 and school reports will be sought.

Is the exam only for prospective parents?

No. Both external candidates and current Norfolk House pupils in Year 2 can take the assessment. Current pupils can also be considered for scholarships.

Are there scholarships available?

Yes. Norfolk House offers a limited number of scholarships for Year 3 entry in September 2027, providing up to 10% tuition fee remission from Year 3 to Year 6. No separate application or additional assessment is required. Awards are based on academic performance and the collaborative task, alongside other relevant information.

FOCUS ON
Raslyn Brown-Ewen



What do you love most about teaching drama at Norfolk House School?

I've been at Norfolk House for eight years and I have been teaching drama for six years. What began as a weekly lesson in Nursery has gradually grown across the school, and in 2026, I'm proud to be teaching drama **from Pre-Nursery all the way through to Form 6**.

Drama is something I'm really passionate about and being able to share that passion with the pupils is incredibly rewarding. One of the things I love most is seeing them grow in confidence, express themselves creatively and flourish as they develop new skills. For me, drama is about so much more than performing, it's about **giving children the opportunity to explore their imaginations**, work together and discover what they're capable of. Seeing how far they come on their journey and how enthusiastic they are about their learning is one of the most rewarding parts of my job.

What exciting drama projects, performances or productions have the pupils been involved in this year?

Looking ahead to next year, we're excited to welcome pupils back for our second **Drama House Competition**. The first competition was a great success, and it was wonderful to see the pupils perform with such confidence.

We have some very talented pupils at Norfolk House, and it's lovely to see them bring what they have learnt in drama lessons to the stage, whether that's through school performances or experiences outside school.

We also look forward to our annual **Form 6 end-of-year production**, which is always something the pupils look forward to. It's a fantastic opportunity for them to work together, develop their performance skills and celebrate what they can achieve.

What skills can children develop through drama that benefit them beyond the stage and in their everyday school life?

Drama helps children develop so many skills that they can use in everyday life, including **communication, teamwork, listening, confidence and public speaking**. I always remind my pupils that body language and facial expressions are just as important as the words we say. The way we stand, move, make eye contact and use our voices can communicate so much, sometimes before we have even spoken.

These skills can help children when presenting their work in class, working with others, sharing their ideas and communicating with people. Drama encourages them to **think creatively, express themselves clearly and have the courage to stand up in front of others**. These are skills that will benefit them well beyond the drama classroom.

How do you help pupils build confidence, creativity and self-expression through drama?

For me, drama is about so much more than learning lines or playing a character. It's about having the **freedom to express yourself**, try new things and build the confidence to be yourself.

In my lessons, I encourage **teamwork, listening to others, sharing ideas** and making sure every pupil feels included and has the opportunity to take part. Some children are naturally confident, while others need a little more encouragement, and drama gives them a safe space to explore and develop at their own pace.

Creativity can grow over time, and **drama gives children the opportunity to use their imagination**, become different characters and explore ideas in ways they might not have tried before.

What do you enjoy most about being part of the Norfolk House community, and what are you looking forward to in the year ahead?

As a specialist teacher, I really enjoy being part of a team and working alongside colleagues who care so much about the pupils and their learning. **The staff at Norfolk House work incredibly hard and go above and beyond to support the pupils**, and I'm proud to be part of that community.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to continue developing drama across the school, giving the children more opportunities to perform, explore their creativity and grow in confidence. I love seeing what the pupils can achieve when they're given the opportunity to express themselves, and I'm looking forward to seeing what the next year brings.

Norfolk House in Action



Next Events



RECEPTION OPEN WEEK

- 11th - 15th January 2027

7+ REGISTRATION DEADLINE

- 26th - 30th January

LITTLE VOYAGERS NURSERY DROP IN SESSIONS 9:30 - 11:00 am

- 15th October 2026
- 19th November 2026
- 21st January 2027

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

Call or email us to book a private tour of the Lower School and Upper School for your family. Children entering Reception to Year 6 are invited to come in for a taster morning. Nursery children are invited for a short stay and play.